Coordinated patrolling by Indian and Indonesia Navies

1519. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian and Indonesia Navies have started coordinated patrolling along international maritime boundary line to check poaching, smuggling and other illegal activities in the Indian Ocean;

(b) if so, when this exercise was started; and

(c) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The first cycle of coordinated patrol by Indian and Indonesian Navies took place from 2nd September, 2002 to 30th September, 2002. In future, the joint patrolling will be undertaken depending upon the need and mutual convenience.

Import of defence aircrafts

1520. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what type of defence aircrafts are being imported;

(b) the sources of imports; and

(c) the reasons for not manufacturing them in India?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Procurement/acquisition of defence requirements is a continuous and ongoing process. Import of defence aircraft is made depending upon their requirement by Armed forces to maintain defence-preparedness at all times. While importing defence aircraft, the indgenous capability is also taken into consideration. Keeping the operational requirements in view, defence aircraft not indigenous manufactured are imported from various countries following the laid down procedure. Indigenous development/technological upgradation and manufacture of defence aircraft identifed for manufacture are undertaken after signing of agreement for Transfer of Technology with the vendor and also by indigenous efforts.